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PHILADELPHIA — 1876
EXPOSITION MEDAL.
MARC FERREZ'S
BRAZILIAN PHOTOGRAPHS

M. Ferrez was photographer to the Geological Survey of
Brazil and received a medal at Philadelphia for the views
taken while in that service.
Brazilian scenery a speciality.
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the various manufacturers they represent, which are kindly
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vide and have successfully employed for this purpose.
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FERNANDO DE NORONHA.

Mr. Editor:—In compliance with your
request I offer you the following notes and
impressions of my recent trip to the island
of Fernando de Noronha.

Embarking in Pernambuco on board the
gunboat *Príncipe do Grão Pará* which had
been placed at the disposition of the com-
mission, a voyage of about thirty hours
brought us within sight of that noted land-
mark, the Pico of Fernando de Noronha.
The gunboat, a brigantine of elegant pro-
portions with auxiliary steam power, made
the voyage in excellent condition and does
great credit to Brazilian ship building and,
being well officered and manned, to the
Brazilian navy also. Having sighted the
peak at a distance of about twenty-five
miles we came to anchor about two hours
afterwards in the little bay of Santo Antonio,
the summer anchorage, a mile or more
distant from the town, where there is a more
commodious landing place, which however
can only be used during the winter months.

The Santo Antonio landing is near the
northern end of the island and has a ware-
house and small fort. To the northward
of it extends a line of small islands of which
the last and largest is Ilha Rasa distant about
a mile from the extreme point of the main
island. As the guano deposits which we
were to examine are on this island our first
care after visiting the commandant and ob-
taining the necessary information and guides
was to explore it. To reach it we passed
first, Ilha Rasa, a very small platform-like
island of coral rock connected with the
main island by a submerged reef laid bare in
the spring tides. Next comes Ilha Redonda,
a high round rock with precipitous sides and
of very picturesque aspect; to the east of it
is the smaller and lower island of São
José topped by the remains of an old fort;
and two small rocks whitened with the ex-
crements of sea birds. To the north comes
Ilha do Meio or Booby Island as it is called
on the English charts, a platform of coral
rock similar to Ilha Rasa and like it ris-
ing abruptly from the water to a height of
four or five metres. The beautiful level
surface is covered with herbage without a
tree and almost without a shrub. A deep
strait some four or five hundred metres
wide separates this island from Ilha Rasa.

This last is about a kilometre long by half
a kilometre broad, and in the southern part
is very similar to the Ilha do Meio. Along
its northern side runs a narrow rocky ridge
from 60 to 70 metres high, which forms a
species of backbone to the island and is pro-
longed at the eastern and western end in
picturesque promontories. This ridge is
composed of a hard trachytic rock similar
to that which forms the island of Fernando
de Noronha. To this backbone is added
on the southern side a considerable area
formed of limestone rocks which present
evidences of having formed a coral reef that
has been elevated to an extreme height of 35
metres. The surface of this limestone while
presenting in general a very uniform slope is
cut up in the most peculiar manner being
covered by short tower-like points of rock
so that, where bare, it greatly resembles a
cleared field from which the stumps have

not been removed. In a little cove opposite
Ilha do Meio the sea has undermined an
immense slab perforated by a number of
circular holes from which with each swell
of the waves a high jet of water is projected.
Landing on the island is effected with con-
siderable difficulty at certain states of the tide
on the low limestone bluff. At other times
it can only be done by means of *jungas*
and with an almost absolute certainty of an
involuntary bath on a small boulder-strewn
beach at the base of the eastern promontory.

Nearly the whole of the limestone por-
tion of the island is covered to a depth of
one or more metres with a very loose yellow-
ish earth which on analysis proves to be
composed almost exclusively of phosphate
of lime. The nature and disposition of this
deposit are such as to lead to the belief that it
is a guano that, under the influence of the
heavy rains of the region, has lost all its
soluble constituents. Owing to the irregu-
larities above described, of the surface on
which it rests, it is difficult to estimate
very closely the quantity of this material, but
as nearly as can be judged, it can not be less
than a million tons and may be considerably
more. Its quality is sufficiently good to
permit of its exportation with profit, since,
according to an analysis made at the national
Mint, it contains 28 % of phosphoric acid
which makes its value in New York about
22 \$600 per metric ton at par of exchange.

The main island, that of Fernando de
Noronha, is something more than four
miles long by about a mile wide in the
middle. The surface is mountainous but
not particularly rugged, only one point, the
peak, being inaccessible and unfit for cul-
tivation. The general aspect of the island
reminds one strongly of that of some of the
smaller of the West Indies group, and is
exceedingly picturesque and beautiful. Like
those it is composed of volcanic rocks of
trachytic character though it presents no
evidence of recent volcanic action and noth-
ing that can be considered as a cone.
The soundings made by the Challenger have
proved that this group is the culminating
point of a submarine mountain chain, like
the one off the coast of Africa that culmin-
ates in the Cape Verde and Canary groups
and that it is separated from the continent
by a deep valley in which are some of the
profoundest depths that have yet been dis-
covered in the Atlantic. Of the many inter-
esting rocks that enter into its composi-
tion the most curious is the phosphate or
volcanic clinstone which splits into thin
plates that ring like a bell when struck with
the hammer.

The soil produced by the decomposition
of these rocks has in many places the
appearance of the famous *terra roxa* of São
Paulo and is not inferior to it in fertility.
In fact the island well deserves the reputa-
tion it enjoys of being one of the most
fertile spots in Brazil. With the exception
of the high southern end the island is
cleared of forest and is or has been under
cultivation even the roughest and stoniest
slopes showing stubble of corn or mandioca
fields. In the centre of the island there is
a considerable area of comparatively level
land which could be cultivated with the

plough and which would make farms that
would delight the heart of a British or Amer-
ican farmer.

At the foot of the peak, a large monolith
of rock like an enormous finger pointing
heaven-ward and seemingly about to topple
over and crush it, lies the town with the
prison and fort. The village is of consider-
able size and in the province of Minas
would merit the honors of a city. It affords
accommodations for about two thousand
inhabitants among convicts, officers and guards
and as most of the former live in their own
houses its general aspect is not essentially
different from that of any other Brazilian
town. The government buildings, the
officers' houses and a number of those of
the convicts are constructed of stone and
mortar, and are covered with tiles and
whitewashed. The most of the houses
are however mere kennels with walls of
loose stone covered with thatch. In nearly
all of them women and children are seen,
some few of the former being criminals,
the others being the wives either *de jure* or
de facto of the convicts who until a recent
period were permitted easy access to the
island. It is a melancholy sight to see
children growing up in such an atmos-
phere of crime. In fact for children and
adults, convicts and guards the penal settle-
ment as at present constituted is nothing
else than an immense school for crime.
The indiscriminate and unrestrained asso-
ciation of criminals of every degree with
each other, with the undisciplined and insub-
ordinate soldiery, with abandoned women
and with innocent children makes the penal
station of Fernando de Noronha a disgrace
not alone to the Brazilian nation but to
the world. Happily the government is
fully informed through the able reports of
Dr. Bandeira Filho and Counselor Padua
Fleury of the department of justice, of the
state of the moral cess-pool which it is
maintaining on that point of its territory
which lies nearest to Europe and is the
first point to greet the sight of the foreigner
visiting Brazil and the one that gives him
the last impression as he leaves the country.
It cannot be doubted that being thus
informed a radical reform will shortly be
effected. If so fair a spot is to be retained
as a penal station the suggestion of Coun-
selor Fleury that it be made a sort of
industrial reformatory school to which con-
victs shall be sent in the last years of their
term as a reward for good conduct is worthy
of thoughtful consideration.

The most refractory of the convicts are
confined *en masse* in a large building for
the purpose, but for the most part they have
the liberty of the island with the obliga-
tion of responding to roll call and of work-
ing a part of each day if they have not the
ability of escaping by *empenhos* from this
last requirement. Many of the guards and
most of the overseers, are convicts and as in
the latter considerable intelligence is re-
quired, some of the worst criminals are often
selected for this duty which is a much
coveted one since an overseer has easy work,
is allowed a horse and has four convicts
detained as servants in his house. One of
these overseers is an Italian convicted of the

murder of an entire family of eleven persons. This man is of such a villainous appearance that one of the officers of the ship knowing the circumstances but never having seen the man picked him out at once from among a group of nearly a hundred, his identification being afterwards confirmed from his own mouth, when the impudent scoundrel honored us with a visit on board. It was positively sickening to see this man lord it over men who, whatever their crimes may have been, were innocents as compared to him.

An agreeable relief from the misery and crime of the village was afforded, by a ride to the central and southern portions of the island where the defilement of the fair face of nature by man's sin and wretchedness is less apparent, and under the influence of the glorious scenery, is readily forgotten. Before leaving the village however I should speak of a speciality of the Fernando cuisine which we enjoyed at the hospitable table of the commandant. This is the peculiar land crab of the island prepared in such a way as to surpass the famed *cris richelieu* of the Ovidor restaurants.

Two excellent macadamized roads lead from the village and along them one gets a constant succession of the most charming and varied views. At the southern end of the island there is still a considerable patch of forest full of the poisonous tree called *Barra*, the dangerous properties of which have been greatly exaggerated. In this part the cliffs bordering the sea are excessively wild and rugged and this is perhaps the most interesting and picturesque portion of the island. Unfortunately we had no time to examine it carefully. Access to the sea is here impossible except at a very few points, and then only with great difficulty and danger. At these points convict patrols are established to prevent any attempt at escape, but notwithstanding the vigilance employed and the great risk of the undertaking such attempts are frequently made as the constant passage of vessels within sight of the island inspires hopes of being picked up. The readers of the News will be interested to learn that the unfortunate man who after almost incredible suffering succeeded in escaping to New York, but who there delivered himself up and was sent back to the prison was afterwards deemed a fit subject for Imperial clemency and was pardoned.

In these hurried notes I have felt obliged to omit many interesting points but even so fear I have trespassed too much upon your space.

Rio de Janeiro, Feb. 21, 1881.

ORVILLE A. DENRY.

THE SUGAR TRADE.

Though somewhat tardy in coming to a knowledge of the fact, it is none the less noteworthy that the *Journal de Commercio* has descended from its consideration of the purely abstract and theoretical, to the discussion of a simple commercial question. Twice during one week has it recurred to the fact that the Congress of the United States is discussing the necessity of modifying the duties on sugar, and with more than usual energy has it called on the government of Brazil to make such representations to the American government as will prevent the levying of any duty disadvantageous to the sugars of the empire.

For more than two years the schedule of sugar duties has been the subject of criticism by boards of trade, refiners, importers, and producers, and Congress has been petitioned to modify the existing tariff, time and again.—Controversy and litigation between the importers and the treasury department as to the construction of the present law stimulated the secretary of the treasury to recommend to Congress in his annual mes-

sage to "no longer delay in the legislation necessary to place this most important feature of our commerce upon a foundation which will enable the government and the importers to conduct their business with greater certainty than at present," and that a settlement should be made by congress "at its present session."

At present the duties are levied as follows:

Sugars not above No. 7. Dutch standard	per lb.
" No. 7 to No. 10 ..	2 3/16 cts.
" No. 11 to No. 13 ..	2 1/2 "
" No. 13 to No. 16 ..	2 13/16 "
" No. 16 to No. 20 ..	3 7/16 "
" above No. 20 (refined) ..	4 1/16 "
Melada and tank bottoms	5 "
Molasses: 6 1/4 cents per gallon.	7 7/8 "

At the last session of congress the committee of ways and means authorized Mr. Tucker of Virginia to report a sugar bill, and on May 11, 1880, the so-called Tucker bill was put on the calendar: the schedule of sugar duties and classifications proposed by this bill is, in substance, as follows:

Tank bottoms, syrup of sugar cane juice ..	1 7/8c.
ane melado ..	2 3/16c.
Not above No. 7 Dutch standard ..	2 3/16c.
Above No. 7 and not above No. 13 ..	2 1/2c.
Above No. 13 and not above No. 16 ..	2 81/100c.
Above No. 16 and not above No. 20 ..	3 17/100c.
Above No. 20 ..	3 67/100c.

Provided, however, that upon all sugars not above No. 7 Dutch standard, which test above 85 degrees, the duty shall be two cents and a half per pound, and the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to employ, under regulations in conformity with law, such means, by chemical analysis, polariscope or otherwise, as shall be best adapted to adjust upon all sugars the rate of duty thereon imposed by this act.

Mr. Carlisle of Kentucky was granted the privilege of offering what is known as the Carlisle bill, the duties and classifications of which are as follows:

Tank bottoms, etc ..	1 1/2c.
Not above No. 13 Dutch standard ..	2c.
Above No. 13 and not above No. 16 ..	2 1/4c.
Above No. 16 and not above No. 20 ..	2 65/100c.
Above No. 20 ..	3 1/4c.

Mr. Tucker claims that the chief merit of his bill is the adaptation of the specific system of duties to the ad valorem principle, and that the rates proposed approximate the ad valorem system "by equivalent specific duties imposed on classes arranged according to their value."

The reason assigned by Mr. Tucker for dropping from his schedule the No. 10 Dutch standard is that he found that the classes No. 7 and under, No. 10 and under No. 13 and under had, during a period of nine years, an average value of 44 7/9, 48 5/9 and 51 2/3 respectively, and that "the variation of the last two classes was so small as to justify an amalgamation of those two classes into one class, and yet the difference of value between the lowest class (No. 7 and under—37 1/9) and that between No. 10 and No. 12 was too great to be continued, if any approximation to the ad valorem principle was hoped for." Hence, in order to remove the temptation to "color down" high testing sugars, provision was made in the bill for testing the saccharine strength of sugars under No. 7 in color.

Mr. Tucker claims that the proposition of the Carlisle bill to put the same duty on all sugars of No. 13 and under is a "flagrant departure from the ad valorem principle," inasmuch as it imposes the same duty on sugars ranging from 3 cents up to 6 cents per pound. [N. Y. *Journal of Commerce*.]

This was the status of the sugar duties question at the end of the session of 1879-1880.

Since then a very important factor has been presented in the shape of an overture from the Spanish-Cuban producers of sugar. The United States takes 91 per cent of all the sugar produced by Cuba; hence Spain and Cuba felt it to be to their interest to put in an appearance. They did by an offer to make reciprocal reductions on duties on flour and grain imported into Cuba from the United States. With that "practical wisdom of the American statesmen," which the *Journal* so condescendingly commends, Spain was met half way by the Washington authorities, and the project now under consideration is to fix the duty on sugar at the arbitrary figure of two and one half cents per pound for all qualities and

kinds. This, of course, means a death blow to the low grade sugars of Brazil, as, to put it in the words of the *Journal*, "a sugar which costs 3 cents per pound, cannot pay a duty of 2 1/2 cents, when a sugar worth 7 cents pays only the same duty."

Of course it is rather a hard case for Brazilian sugars. But what has Brazil ever done in the way of reciprocity to entitle her to request the government at Washington to discriminate in her favor. Has she reduced the duty on flour? No, in the last adjustment of duties, a few months since, she raised the duty on flour, and reduced it on wines! Has she reduced the duty on kerosene, timber, or on any of the products of the United States? Is she prepared to offer the United States a reduction on any of these staples, as an offset for a favorable regulation regarding Brazilian sugar? On the contrary, Brazil imposes and collects an export duty of 9% on every pound of sugar she sends to the United States; and collects on an average, an export tax of 13% on all coffee exported to that country. If the diplomatic representative of Brazil at Washington, whose power has been invoked by the *Journal*, can promise that flour or kerosene shall hereafter be admitted to Brazilian ports free of duty, or that Brazil will withdraw her heavy export tax on coffee, perhaps the people at Washington may give her request a favorable hearing.

THE COFFEE DISEASE.

The reports concerning the falling of the bloom of the Brazilian coffee crop, of which an account was given in the *Bulletin* recently, it is stated by prominent dealers has been confirmed by later dispatches.

The *Central American Reporter*, published at San José de Costa Rica, C. A., under date of Nov. 15, publishes a series of translations of important official documents concerning the so called coffee disease, of which the following is an extract:

"It appears that the spot is an affection known in the coffee estates in the state of Santander. There and in the neighboring state of Jachira in Venezuela it appears in conditions analogous to those seen in Salsima: that is to say, after a period of heavy rains. Here and likewise in Cundinamarca it is already known, by experience, to disappear on the cessation of the excessive humidity, and that the plants attacked recover their health without difficulty, and produce the same as they did before being attacked. Also it is satisfactory to be able to announce that the fluorescence of the coffee estates of Salsima, which were attacked by the disease, is exceedingly abundant, and promises an exceptionally productive crop; the fact that the trees which lost their leaves in consequence of the disease have flowered the best, has induced the planters to think of pruning their plantations in order to augment the products. It will also be realized by this that the disease is a benefit, the consequences of which will not be immediately comprehended."

Nicholas Osorio, who made investigations relative to the disease amongst the coffee trees which had shown itself in some parts of the state of Cundinamarca, writes to the commissioner of agriculture that about a year and a half ago some of these trees were attacked by the said disease. On some of the trees so affected the fruit does not arrive at maturity, and where the fruit matures it is black and dried up. In this fruit appears parasites and spots resembling those on the leaves. The shoots are also of a blackish color, the leaves fall off and the tree has the same appearance as agriculturists call "palo seco." In such cases the crop is small or none at all; and the trees which are not destroyed give a bad crop the following year. Mr. Carlos Balen inclines to attribute the disease to the presence of an insect, and it is known that he is occupying himself making experiments to discover if it is so. It is not denied that the cause of the disease may be what he supposes, but to find a vegetable parasite on the leaves affected appears to be a circumstance extremely worthy of attention because of its probable connection with the cause of the disease.

In a later dispatch, Mr. Osorio states that on making a fresh examination he was surprised to discover the presence of a live insect. From what he can make out, this insect appears to belong to the class of the "Acanthodes" and to the tribe of the "Acanthodes." This discovery throws much light on the coffee disease. This insect damages that part of the leaf on which it fixes itself and the fungus is developed afterwards. This discovery is an important fact, as it clearly reveals the cause of the disease, and points out a way to seek the remedy

for powerful parasites assisted by the destruction of that part of the plant in which the parasites are discovered in order to avoid contagion.

The Panama *Star and Herald* states that the coffee growers of Fiji have to thank Sir Arthur Gordon the late Governor for being saddled with coffee leaf disease. It appears that on the first outbreak of the disease the planters unanimously petitioned Sir Arthur to have the estate burned to the ground at the colonist's expense, but the Governor undertook its extinction in a different manner. Instead of sending up four or five hundred coolies at once and setting to work, the government waited until Dr. McGregor was able to go up to the estate and prepare a lengthy report on the disease, and after immense delay fifty coolies were sent up to weed and lop and lime, and sulphur, &c., three or four hundred acres of coffee, by which time the disease had spread to other parts, and now "Viti Levu," the largest island of the group, we are told is inextricably saddled with coffee leaf disease.—N. Y. *Commercial Bulletin*, Dec. 20.

THE BATTLE OF CHORRILLOS.

(From the *Chilian Times*.)

The army march from Larin on the afternoon of the 12th instant, and at daylight on the 13th the 1st division, under Colonel Lynch, commenced the action by a brilliant attack on the enemy's fortified positions in front of Chorrillos. Fifty minutes afterwards the Gana brigade of the 2nd division opened fire on the enemy's left and centre, and the action became general along all the line, which extended from Villa to Monte Rico. Three regiments of the reserve were sent to the support of the 1st division, which was in the hottest of the fight, and the Gana brigade was supported by the Barbosa brigade, and by some troops of the 3rd division. The advance of the infantry was admirably protected by the artillery. Two hours after the action commenced the enemy was driven back, having been dislodged by assault from twelve strongly-fortified positions on the heights over against Chorrillos, and the whole of his line towards the east was in possession of the Chilean army. For a while it was thought the fighting was over, but the enemy having been reinforced by 6000 fresh troops from Lima, he formed again, and having concentrated himself on the Morro Solar, which was defended by heavy artillery, and in the town of Chorrillos, the battle recommenced with renewed vigor on both sides. After five hours' hard fighting, during which the stronghold of Morro Solar was taken by assault, victory again declared for the Chileans, the enemy having been dislodged from Chorrillos, street by street, and house by house, and put to flight. The whole of the enemy's line and the towns of Chorrillos and Barrancos fell into the hands of the victors.

The remainder of the 13th and the whole of the 14th were spent in attending to the wounded, and in making preparations for attacking the enemy's second line of defence at Miraflores. On the 15th, at the petition of the diplomatic corps in Lima, a suspension of hostilities was agreed upon until midnight of that day, in order to afford the Peruvian authorities time to treat of peace. At 2 p.m., the General-in-Chief accompanied by the chief of the staff major, and some of his aides, confiding in the formal agreement that had been entered into to suspend hostilities, was riding down the line in front of Miraflores, when the enemy, with characteristic treachery, opened fire on the General-in-Chief and group of officers, but fortunately without hitting anybody, and immediately afterwards threw 15,000 men against the Chilean army, which was resting and was totally unprepared for so perfidious an act on the part of the enemy. This base attempt to surprise the Chilean army completely failed, however, and after a fight of four hours, the enemy who fought behind intrenchments and loop-holed walls was beaten at every point, and that night the Chilean army rested within a league of Lima. An hour later the Dictator and his government had disappeared: and the Peruvian army had dispersed in all directions. On the 16th, the local authorities of Lima consented to the unconditional surrender of that city and Callao, and of the remainder of the Peruvian fleet, and at date of latest advices arrangements had been made for the entry of the Chilean army into Lima to take place on the 17th.

The total receipts of imported dry-goods at New York for the year 1880 amounted to a value of \$119,844,120. The largest class was that of silks which amounted to a value of \$35,342,349.

The attempt to introduce Chinamen as workmen on Louisiana plantations is said to be a failure, owing to the inability of the Chinese to endure the intense heat. Recently a good many sturdy laborers from Spain and Portugal have been induced to cultivate and gather cotton and sugar, and so far they have given satisfaction. The agency which originally introduced these laborers has an order for ten thousand more, and it is said that one hundred thousand can be readily obtained if employment can be found for them.

PROVINCIAL NOTES.

—An ex-subdelegado of police was assassinated at Jaboticabal, São Paulo, during the first days of the month.

—A slave at Mogy-guaçu recently killed his overseer, and then threw himself into the Rio Guassú and was drowned.

—Senator José Pedro Dias de Carvalho, having been offered the presidency of the province of Minas Geraes, declined the honor on account of ill-health.

—The 90 slaves which were to have been smuggled into São Paulo, at Casa Branca, in violation of the new law, still remain in Minas Geraes.

—The grateful people of Estrella, Rio Grande do Sul, are talking about raising a monument to commemorate the passage of Article viii of the electoral reform bill.

—Project 98, of the São Paulo provincial assembly, authorizes the expenditure of 60,000\$ in improving the road leading from Itapetininga through Faxina to the Rio Itararé.

—At Jaguariúna, S. Pedro do Sul, 18 slaves have been freed by the Emancipation Fund with the sum of 12,900\$ to which the former contributed 970\$, the amount of their savings.

—The January receipts of the Bahia custom house were: general, 733,154\$027; provincial, 93,863\$427. The receipts of the recbedoria were: provincial, 61,151\$560; general, 34,720\$356.

—A second attempt to accomplish Dr. Tanner's fast, is now taking place at Leopoldina. There is just enough humbug about the whole performance to spoil it even for a farce.

—Nine slaves presented themselves to the *delegado* of police at Petropolis on the 13th inst., complaining of bad treatment received from their master, Joaquim de Souza Mello, a planter at Paty do Alferes.

—Joachim Cabot, who has just died at Pirassununga, S. Paulo, left about 7,000\$ in charitable legacies and directed the remainder of his fortune, amounting to about 15,000\$, to be distributed amongst the poor of his district. He also liberated 4 slaves, the only ones he possessed.

—An attempted assassination took place at Jaboticabal, São Paulo, on the 10th inst. A shot was fired from the street at Salvarino Rodrigues de Carvalho as he was sitting at his table in the evening writing a letter, which resulted in the infliction of a severe wound. The assassin escaped without recognition.

—According to the estimates of Dr. Luiz Antonio Monteiro de Barros, who was recently invited by the president of Pernambuco to examine the water supply of that city with reference to its increase, it will cost a further expenditure of 1,613,700\$ to secure a total daily supply of 10,000 cubic meters of water. The present supply is 6,000 cubic meters.

The following nominations have been made for presidents of provinces: Dr. Manuel Pinto de Souza Dantas Filho for Pará, deputy Martinho Alvares da Silva Campos for Rio de Janeiro, senator João Lustosa da Cunha Paranaguá for Bahia, senator José Pedro Dias de Carvalho for Minas and senator Florencio de Albreu for Pernambuco.

—The black boy who killed a planter near Niterohy on the morning of the 12th inst., was captured some hours after, and has confessed the crime. He says that he was directed to commit the crime by another person, who furnished him with the gun. The police at Niterohy allowed the news of this confession to get out long before they went to arrest the guilty party; when, of course, he could not be found.

—Our Ouro Preto exchange contains a report from Serrô in the province of Minas to the effect that about 500 armed men from various places in the vicinity have revolted against the authorities and threatened to sack the city of Serrô and appoint a governor. There has been one man killed and several wounded. The cause is said to be a municipal tax and the civil registry. Is this a revolt or an election scrimmage?

—A fight took place recently in João Gomes, in Minas, between a police force and six Italians who were accused of a considerable robbery on a fazenda near Barbacena. Four of the Italians were captured, two escaping on the train to Juiz de Fora where they were also arrested and also rescued from an application of Lynch law by the police delegate of that place. The sum of 6,845\$ was recovered.

—A free fight took place in the night of January 19th in the church of the city of Carmo do Rio Claro, province of Minas Geraes. The combatants were the vicar and his friends among whom were a number of women on one side and the municipal judge, an advocate and the police delegate and their partisans on the other. Clubs, torches, revolvers and other weapons were freely used and the advocate was killed. The causes of the disturbance are not as yet definitely known but it is stated that some of the police authorities under indictment for unlawful crimes have continued to exercise their functions.

—By the will of the late D. Custodia Maria da Boa Morte de Taperôá, in the province of Bahia, 11 slaves were liberated; they were all from 30 to 47 years of age.

—The Ypiranga lottery machine has been examined by a commission of engineers. Of course the engineers looked wise and pronounced the mechanism perfect.

—An attempt is being made in the São Paulo provincial assembly to repeal a law prohibiting priests from becoming public teachers without the customary examination.

—Complaints are made by the citizens of Livramento, Rio Grande do Sul, of the atrocities of a band of cutthroats which infest that vicinity. Robberies are of frequent occurrence, and four assassinations have recently taken place.

—A bill now before the São Paulo provincial assembly authorizes the municipal authorities of Rio Claro to contract a loan of 50,000\$, at an interest charge not exceeding 10 per cent., for the construction of water works and a public fountain in that place.

—Three free persons held as slaves at Taldeiro do Pomba, Minas Geraes, were recently set at liberty in response to a requisition from the chief of police of Rio de Janeiro. It does not appear, however, that the parties guilty of the crime of reducing them to slavery, were arrested.

—The police authorities of São Paulo are compelling the tramway companies to present their drivers for examination, in compliance with a new law. Twenty days time has been fixed in which all drivers must present themselves at police headquarters.

—The receipts of the São Paulo provincial post-office for the year 1879-80 were 230,047\$773, and the expenditures 215,515\$163, leaving a net balance of 14,532\$710. For the first half of the present fiscal year the receipts were 131,906\$292 and the expenditures were 115,000\$—as far as ascertained.

—The Ceará slave-dealers who were recently prevented from sending slaves on board the coasting steamer *Pardé*, have sent 45 of them to Aracaty to be embarked on a little trading steamer for Paralyha, where they will await the next northward-bound steamer for Rio. These slaves are destined for sale in the province of Minas Geraes.

—A correspondent of the *Provincia*, of S. Paulo, relates that an official at S. Carlos do Pinhal having summoned a physician to serve as a jurymen, he was taken into a room and was beaten nearly to death. The physician did not wish to be annoyed with such matters and took this course to relieve himself from any further summons. The officer was an old man of some sixty odd years.

—According to the *Artista*, of Rio Grande, of the 4th inst., a contract was signed on the 1st between the captain of the port of Rio Grande, as the representative of the government, and the proprietors of the Arroio dos Ratos coal mines for supplying the provincial fleet with coal for a term of five years, dating from the 8th of March. The price stipulated is 20\$ per ton, the government to pay all the expenses of embarking it. From this it would seem that the Rio Grande coal is not so cheap after all!

RAILROAD NOTES.

—The January receipts of the Santa Antonio de Padua railroad were 17,317\$111.

On the 11th inst. 39 kilometers of the Bahia Central railway were opened to traffic.

—Decree No. 7,997 of the 12th instant approves the removal of the seat of the S. Paulo and Rio de Janeiro railroad company from this city to São Paulo.

—The minister of agriculture will soon inaugurate a new time table for the Dom Pedro II railway, by which it is expected to gain time on the through passenger trains.

—The president of Minas Geraes has signed a contract with Dr. Candido José Coelho de Moura for the construction of a railway between S. João d'El-Rey and Oliveira.

—The late heavy rains caused a light land-slide on the São Paulo railway, between Santos and São Paulo, but it was quickly remedied. A downward train was delayed only about two hours.

—A meeting of the Alto-Mariá railway shareholders was held in this city on the 17th inst. The company resolved to accept the kilometrical subsidy of 9,000\$ offered by the province of Minas Geraes.

—The minister of agriculture has instructed the engineer, Mr. Milner Roberts, to examine the ports of Victoria and Benevente in order to ascertain which of them is most convenient as a starting point for the Espírito Santo railway.

—The minister of agriculture has resolved to direct an engineer to examine the plans of two projected railroads in the province of Sergipe in order to ascertain which of them ought to receive the guarantee of interest on the part of the government.

—A private letter from Caravelas, dated January 22, says that 100 kilometers of the "Caravelas a Philadelphia" line have been explored, 20 kilometers have been located, and 8 kilometers have been cleared. The work on the road bed was to have begun on the 25th ult.

—A commission of engineers, appointed by the Alto Mariá railway company, will leave here on the 25th instant for Alto Mariá in order to determine the zone through which that railroad is to pass. Two of the directors of the company will accompany the commission.

—The balance sheet of the Batistide railway for the calendar year 1880 shows the following results:

Gross receipts.....	256,313\$313
Remaining expenses.....	163,675 093
Net receipts.....	92,638 220
Receipts per kilometer.....	2,703\$726

—The deficit paid by the government in virtue of guaranteed interest on the capital of the "Recife ao São Francisco" railway, since the opening of the line in 1858, amounts to 8,344,374\$568. The largest deficit was in the year 1875 (682,185\$865) and the smallest in the year 1880 (396,496\$867).

—The minister of agriculture has instructed the president of the province of Pernambuco to confer with the fiscal engineer of the "Recife ao S. Francisco" railroad company on the necessity of augmenting the rolling stock of said line and to report on the motives for such increase, the kind and quantity of material required and the cost of the same.

—From the report of the directors of the "Carris Urbanos" company, to be presented at the general meeting of shareholders, it appears that the gross receipts were 585,805\$410 in the first and 811,829\$000 in the second semestre of last year. After deduction of the expenditure, taxes, dividends and reserve fund, there remains a net balance of 43,629\$881 which it is recommended to carry to the account of new lines.

—The gross receipts of the "União Valenciana" railroad company in the second semestre of 1880 were 179,291\$564 and the expenditure 135,374\$31, leaving a balance of 43,916\$933 which, with that of the first semestre, viz. 25,004\$634, makes a total of 68,921\$567 for the year. After payment of a dividend of 6½ per cent, there remain 8,787\$567 to be carried to the reserve fund which now amounts to 26,426\$198.

—The works on the Paulo Afonso railroad, province of Alagoas, were suspended on the 16th instant and it is stated that those on the "Camocim a Sobral" railroad, in the province of Ceará, will be suspended shortly. The reason of these suspensions is that the credit voted by the legislature for the construction of these lines has been exhausted, the new credits asked for by the minister of agriculture not having been voted.

—The suburban trains on the Pedro II railroad which leave the city at 12.30 a. m. and Cascauda at 11.10 p. m. have been abolished, the reasons given being that these trains, owing to the limited number of passengers, caused the company a daily loss of 42\$260 and 45\$690 respectively. Apart from the great inconvenience resulting from this proceeding to the residents of these suburbs, it seems to us a very short-sighted policy on the part of the company, for, if the public is deprived of the convenience of reaching town or returning home at late hours of the evening many will certainly remove altogether from these suburbs and the loss of the company will be considerable.

RIVER PLATE ITEMS.

From the Buenos Ayres Herald of February 8.

—The business outlook in town is anything but encouraging.

—The wheat crop is safe, large, and very good. The colonies are prospering reasonably well, and new ones are in contemplation.

—There is a strong movement in lauds, several large tracts having been bought on speculation and put on the market, at prices which, with judicious selection, will afford great bargains for buyers.

—General business is exceedingly dull. This is owing largely to the withholding of the greater part of the wool clip, hoping for better prices and the lateness and falling off of saladero produce. As the market now stands those who bought wool early suffer a loss of from 30 to 35 pesos per arroba, or 20 per cent and upward. Several millers men have already failed, and others must if there is no recovery soon.

—The stagnation of business in the produce markets owing to bad news from home, has led to the breaking of several large contracts for wool, and to considerable inconvenience to farmers and others more or less interested in this trade. Government lands still command attention on the part of speculators, and, all things considered, they may be regarded as the best investment of capital which the country has to offer.

—When a holder of a municipal bond goes to ask for his long-deferred interest, his feelings will be soothed by having shown to him an elegant plan of that great boulevard, on which the rich can ride, and he will come away impressed with the wisdom of the city fathers.

—Although no epidemic disease is abroad in this country, the heat, surpassing any ever felt here before, is very oppressive, and cases of sunstroke are very frequent. There have been four cases of sudden death during the past week, and there can be little doubt but they have been due, in part, to the excessive heat. In the early part of last week we were visited with one of the most violent thunderstorms on record. It appears to have swept over the whole country, with the most disastrous results.

—In the Banda Oriental we learn that things are looking stormy still; but it will be premature for us to attempt to unravel the state of affairs as they appear at present in that country. It appears evident, however, that Col Santos still has his eye on the Presidential chair, from which we do not see how anything milder than a revolution is likely to remove him. Of course, all these fears and uncertainties have their influence on business, and very little is being done there in any department of trade.

—From Paraguay, we continue to receive brilliant accounts. The wisdom and foresight of the present administration in that country are producing their legitimate fruits, and the resources of the country, which have been permitted to lie untouched for so many years, are now likely to be developed, opening up many sources of wealth to the Republic, and as a natural consequence, to those who settle there. The crops of yerba and tobacco, this year, besides being of excellent quality, are larger than they have ever been known before.

—What we learn from the West Coast leads us to infer that the desires of the Chilean Government are for peace. A special plenipotentiary, endowed with full powers, on the limits question, is to be appointed to the Argentine Republic, where, we venture to say he will be met with a spirit of reason and moderation, which make it easy to set this vexed question at rest in a manner which will be satisfactory to all concerned.

Heart-rending accounts are read in the West Coast papers, of the carnage at the battles of "Chorrillos and Miraflores," which appear to have been disgraced by scenes of unnecessary cruelty and barbarity that are far behind the enlightened spirit of the age, and the vanquished civilization of the Chileans by whom these things are said to have been committed.

Juan Gretina, tailor of the calle Artes suspecting his wife of undue intimacy with Eugenio Segretin, of the *Polisaria* opposite, adopted the usual stratagem of a pretended departure for the country with the usual result of finding his suspicion verified on his return—when he stabbed them both, as they lay in bed, with a common butcher knife. The woman is reported to be dying—the man may recover.

—The *Standard* gives the following table of exports to the United States during the year 1880:

Exports	Value \$f gold.
Hides and skins.....	1,007,653 3,500,000
Wool, bales.....	12,054 1,500,000
Sheepskins, do.....	129 20,000
Horse hair do.....	1,612 280,000
Fur skins do.....	179 38,000
Coatskins, do.....	1,450 560,000
Stags, do.....	3,644 7,000
Nutria, do.....	665 200,000
Carpenteries.....	27,930 35,000
Cuttings, bales.....	332 10,000

The carriage of greater part of this produce has been done in 38 vessels from this, and 16 vessels from Rosario, making a total of 54 vessels.

—From the West Coast there is little of interest to report; Peruola seems disposed to give the conquerors of his country as much trouble as possible, and he still maintains his claim to be the supreme head of the nation, to back which pretensions he is said to have about four thousand mulattoes armed men. The Chilean government has issued a manifesto in which it expresses its desire to maintain amicable relations with all its neighbors, and its willingness to listen to reason in all questions of an international character which may arise. On the whole, the tone of that and this country toward each other is more peaceable and reasonable than might have been expected some time ago, and justice on either one side will be met by the like on the other, whenever the vexed questions between the two republics are brought forward again for discussion.

—The United States treasury department has increased the official valuation of the standard coin of Brazil from 54.5 to 54.6 cents per milreis.

—The total value of the coffee imports of the United States for the year 1880 was \$31,891,965, against \$42,002,207 in 1879, \$33,666,175 in 1878 and \$37,355,112 in 1877.

THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED TRIMONTHLY

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RIO DE JANEIRO, FEBRUARY 24TH, 1881.

THE recent orders of the minister of agriculture to discontinue all work on railways for which there is no money appropriated must be commended as a step in the right direction, though it will occasion great loss to the country in various ways, and will be a greater inconvenience to those who have furnished material for which they have not yet been paid; men who relied on the good faith of the government when they accepted and filled these orders, and who are not, in some instances prepared to await the good pleasure of the treasury people without reimbursements.

SIX months beginning of the work on the new railway to connect the city of Mexico with the railway system of the United States the attention of the commercial world has been called to that country in a variety of ways. First, General Grant, in an address delivered in Boston, said Mexico could furnish all the tropical products the United States needed, and would take American manufactures and products in payment. Mr. Foster, the American minister to Mexico more specifically writes that "it can produce all the coffee consumed in the United States. It has a greater area of sugar producing lands than Cuba and of equal fertility. Its ranges afford the widest scope and the best conditions for wool and stock raising." This means a possible rival to Brazil in the near future, and it may not be out of place to suggest that the Americans are not unwilling to buy of other American countries rather than of Brazil. This was clearly indicated by Mr. Blaine, who, on the floor of the house of representatives at Washington, declared, in response to a suggestion of the secretary of the treasury to impose a tax on coffee, that he was not opposed to such a tax, but he would propose that it be levied only on coffee grown by slave labor. Straws show which way the wind blows. Does it not behoove the statesmen of Brazil, in the face of a steady decline in prices, and an equal ratio of increase of production, to legislate with reference to retaining the best customer the empire has?

THE venerable Baron de Lavradio, has, to the regret of a grateful community resigned all the honors which an appreciative country had heaped upon him. He is no longer the head of the board of health; no longer the chief of the sanitary commission; nor even the head of the vaccine department of the capital of the empire. How the authorities could possibly bring themselves to the point of accepting his resignation of all these posts is certainly a marvel. For years we have felt that his very name gave us immunity from yellow

fever, small pox, cholera, and all the ills that flesh is heir to, and now, is there any other name to "conjure" with? Any other man to whose personality the plagues will bow and make themselves conspicuous by their absence? Alas, none! Nor is this all. His illustrious scion, the honorary and corresponding member of seven hundred and nine medical, historical, geographical, agricultural, pomological, horticultural, and piscatorial societies, in all parts of the world, has also resigned his numerous positions, and gracefully retires to private life where the benedictions of all well-thinking citizens follow him. Another scion of the same parental stock will, we understand soon close the pharmacy where were compounded the celebrated formulas numbers "one," "two" and "three," which kept disease from our hearths and homes, and enabled us to breathe freely, without visions of Caji in the perspective. Thus at one fell swoop to be deprived of the services of so distinguished a family is a cause for national grief and mourning.

THE permanent exhibition of American machinery" is thus handsomely noticed in the Boston Herald of Jan. 8th.

"An American gentleman living in Rio de Janeiro sends home an encouraging report about the projected American exhibition there. *The English-printed papers of the Brazilian capital are disposed to ignore the enterprise, they being devoted to European trade interests*, but, notwithstanding their assertion that nothing is known there about it, the managers of 'the permanent exhibition of American machinery,' as it is called, have begun to pull down the old buildings on the site to make way for the new ones. 'I thoroughly believe,' says the writer, 'that it will be a good thing for American manufacturers, as American goods now are not shown to advantage in the stores, but are generally found stuck in some dark corner, and not brought out at all unless asked for.' The French and English seem to have the monopoly, especially the former. The Americans are very much liked here; far more so than the English, as far as I have seen or can learn."

The italics are ours. The "old buildings on the site" are as tenacious as ever, and still refuse to be pulled down. How much longer is this thing to be kept up? The scheme will command respect for its very antiquity, if it keeps before the people another decade. Intending shippers should refer to the Department of state, or by letter, to some respectable American house in New York, Baltimore or Philadelphia, engaged in the Brazil trade, before sending their goods.

THE London correspondent of the *Journal do Commercio* refers to what he calls the "violent fluctuations of foreign exchanges" and cites as an example, exchange in New York, where the pound sterling has fluctuated in value from par to one per cent below par! However, he accounts for it on true economic grounds in the clearest and most lucid terms. "But," he says, "we must consider the exchange of Rio de Janeiro from an entirely different point of view." We agree with his premise, but do not find his demonstration quite up to the level of his very interesting letters to the *Journal*. In fact, it is really no more intelligible than the usual local exposition of the cause of the decline in exchange in the columns of the daily press.

As between New York and London the elements of exchange are two currencies of different units of value but both based on the fact of their being redeemable—full face value—in gold, hence the fluctuations are practically reduced to a range of less than

2 p. cent, affected only by the law of demand and supply, the accidents of barter, or temporary turns of the tide of trade.

As to exchange between Brazil and Europe, one of the representatives of value is a paper currency—circulating without the remotest provision for its eventual redemption in gold—in quantity only theoretically limited, for ministers can issue at will, as was shown by the act of a late master of finance, at the head of the treasury department.

An irredeemable paper currency is subject to every possible vicissitude, as was exemplified in the United States when the price of a gold dollar ran the gamut from \$1.00 in 1861, to \$2.62 in 1864, and continued to be the toy of speculators until 1880, when the government wisely redeemed all its outstanding indebtedness in gold.

COOLIE labor may have advantages consoling to the soul of the Brazilian planter when viewed in the light of a substitute for slave labor, but the patriotic statesmen of Brazil, supposing for a moment that planter and statesman have not, in the confusion of things inseparable from the existence of slavery in any country, become synonymous terms, should examine the matter from every point of view presented by the experience of other countries. The following is taken from the *Anti-Slavery Reporter*, and may suggest a phase of the Coolie importation not heretofore considered:

"The ostensible purpose of bringing East Indian coolies to Jamaica is to increase the production of sugar, and thus by increasing production and wealth to promote the general benefit of the community. Its actual results have been to keep down the rate of wages, to stimulate the emigration of the best and strongest of the native labourers, and to burden the colony with an enormous debt. Notwithstanding past failures the sugar planting interest is still striving to continue coolie immigration, and even to obtain a large proportion of the cost from the public purse.

"We believe the scarcity of native labour sometimes complained of has been caused in no small degree by the injustice put upon native industry by this importation of competing labour at the public expense. For every coolie brought into the island, we believe two or more prime labourers have left the island. In the official Jamaica Gazette of May 6th, 1880, the following appears as a marginal note to a statistical return:—

"Kingston.—No new industries for the employment of native labour have arisen, whilst a remarkable exodus occurred of able-bodied labourers to Panama and other places, which exodus still continues to be promoted by the agent of the Costa Rica Railway."

"Can any one doubt that natives of Jamaica would prefer work in their own island if they were not unfairly handicapped by coolie immigration? Mr. T. Hughes (*Vacuum Viator of the Spectator*), writing from Tennessee, tells us that the negroes there crowd to every contractor or large employer of labour. The Jamaica black man is not of different nature to his brother in the United States."

The best substitute for slave labor, then, is the freedman, if the law will only put a term to his existence as a slave. Slavery removed, the chief obstacle to voluntary immigration once diverted to Brazil the planters will have nothing to do but pay the laborer regularly for his work, and devote themselves to farming as a business, to secure prosperity to the agricultural interest forever.

THE persistence with which the customs authorities of this port cling to the abuses and defects of that department is a source of deep regret. It is a recognized fact that the custom house is an essential factor in the administration of this empire, as it furnishes fully seventy-per cent of its total revenue. It is also a recognized fact that the custom house affords the easiest method of raising a large revenue, and that it effects that result in a way that is least felt by the tax payer. Every business man must therefore feel the necessity of preserving it, and contributing to its efficiency. It is a mistake to treat the mercantile community of this city as an enemy to the custom house; no responsible merchant could entertain such a sentiment for a moment. The profits and security of every business investment are intimately dependent upon the financial administration of the country and the revenue from which the government meets its obligations and protects its citizens, is very largely derived from customs taxes. It follows therefore that any adverse act with regard to the latter will eventually react upon business itself—unless some other equally good revenue-producing agency be found—and this the merchant understands thoroughly. We may safely assume, therefore, that on general principles it is for the best interest of business that the custom house shall be efficiently administered, and that its revenue shall be large. It is true that there are frequent cases where the law has been evaded and where goods have been introduced into the country through irregular channels; but of such cases the government is quite as often in the blame as the importer. The revenue interest of a country never requires that duties shall be placed so high as to make smuggling a profitable business. And then too, such cases can not warrant the usual practice of treating all men, regardless of their standing, as intending offenders against the law: No law can be just which overlooks an honorable reputation and places its possessor side by side with criminals. From time to time there have been many complaints made against the administration of this custom house. Practices of the most dishonest character have been permitted within it, such as the abstraction of goods. The removal of tin packing cases, the defacement of fine goods by removing tickets, and the enforcement of unjust classifications and fines, particularly in cases where the importer is in a hurry for his goods. Then, too, the anchorage regulations have imposed an unjust tax upon importers, and the delays in getting their goods discharged, the delays in getting them conveyed from the wharves into the storehouses, and the further delays attendant upon their dispatch are all grave taxes upon a community which is already bearing more than its just share of such burdens. These practices can not possibly benefit the treasury because they tend to restrict commerce, and to defeat its full and free development. Every excessive customs duty, and every restrictive regulation tends in just that degree to decrease importation and cut off revenue. Every measure which encourages trade and leads to an increased consumption of goods adds just so much to the revenue. These are very plain principles and it is incomprehensible how a government official can overlook them.

FOR some time past the American Minister at Chile has been in communication with Gen. Thomas Oydén Osborne the American Minister at Buenos Aires regarding the pending questions existing between Chile and Buenos Aires, and we learn from the River Plate that with the sanction of both governments an accord has been reached which will be the base of a treaty to be shortly celebrated.

LOCAL NOTES.

—Mr. Robert James Shalders has been named British vice-consul at this port.

—It is said that the government has approved the measures adopted at the late Paris congress for the protection of industrial property.

—Deputy Joaquim Nabuco has been made an honorary member of the Spanish Abolition Society as a recognition of his anti-slavery work in Brazil. During his recent visit to Madrid the society gave him a formal reception, at which time he delivered an address on the history and present phases of slavery in Brazil.

—In a letter to Capt. Thomas Bailey, of the American bark *Adelphi*, dated August 11, 1880, the U.S. department of agriculture acknowledges the receipt of some Liberia coffee plants, and samples of cotton seed, forwarded by John Steele, Esq., of this city. The coffee plants were in excellent order, and will be thoroughly tested as to their adaptability to cultivation in the United States.

—From the extensive preparations now making it is probable that the carnival this year will be unusually brilliant. There will be all the customary excesses, together with such others as the fertile brain of the "gilded youth" can invent. Many young men will spend more than they can earn during the whole year, business will be injured, and there will be the usual increase of fevers after it is all over.

—According to a statement concerning the official savings bank of this city, published in the *Jornal do Commercio* of the 13th inst., the withdrawal of deposits during the year 1880 exceeded the receipts by 1,406,250\$230. The interest paid on deposits amounted during the year to 502,350\$8 1/2. The balance remaining in the bank on the 31st of December was 10,238,340\$670, against 11,142,808\$762 on the corresponding date of 1879.

—The government has commissioned Dr. Paula Freitas, the architect of the Typographia Nacional, to proceed to Europe for the purpose of studying college architecture with reference to plans for the new medical college on Ilha da Gávea. The corner stone of this college was laid on the 12th, but nothing more will probably be done until Dr. Freitas' return, and until he shall have fully digested all the various styles of architecture met in Europe.

—On the 19th instant at about 5 a.m. the police on duty in the neighborhood of the Praça das Marlinhas received the information that a boat with jerked beef, stolen from a vessel in the harbor, was alongside the wharf and about to land its spoils into a warehouse there. The policeman Paulo Fortunato de Oliveira at once entered the boat with the intention to arrest her crew, but no sooner had he done so when the latter rowed off taking him along with them. Chase was given immediately but, helped by the fog, the fugitives escaped and have not since been heard of. It has been ascertained however that, being embarrassed in their flight by the policeman in the boat, they threw him overboard and he was drowned.

—A scientific society at Vienna recently offered a prize of hundred florins for the best solution of the problem:

What is the reason why a dead rabbit weighs more than a live one?

In less than a month 352 answers were sent to the president of the society and the reasons given therein for the solution of that problem were all more or less plausible.

When, however, the prize was about to be given somebody thought of asking the president to ascertain first the exactness of the opinion emitted in the problem. A live rabbit was sent for, weighed, killed and re-weighed, when it was found that—the two weights were exactly the same!

—The frequent occurrence of disorders and murders in this city and in Niterói leads to the conclusion that the *capangas* have again resumed his avocation. For a time there has been some degree of immunity from the knife and razor, but the reappearance of these cut-throats again warrants the belief that we are not yet fully rid of them. As a mild preventive of their lawlessness, we would suggest the erection of a few whipping posts, where not only can these desperadoes be treated to the insinuating remonstrances of the lash, but also their more powerful employers, in whose service many of these assassins are retained. And then, for those caught running amuck in the streets, a summary application of the hangman's noose will undoubtedly have a very beneficial effect. There is no use in wasting any false sentiment on these outlaws; the lives and property of respectable citizens are at stake, and demand the fullest protection from their lawless proceedings. They deserve no mercy whatever from the hands of law-abiding citizens; and they should be dealt with, together with their less guilty employers, with every rigor of summary punishment. If this state of things goes on there will be no alternative for honest men but the carrying of revolvers, and their use in cases of emergency.

—The government has conferred the grand cross of the Imperial Order of the Cruzeiro on President Grévy.

—The apparatus for lighting the Campo da Acauã by electric light has been ordered by the government.

—The number of passengers transported by the São Christóvão tramway line during the year 1880 was 8,460,377, against 9,440,112 during the year 1879.

—Decree 7,983, of the 5th inst., grants a ten years' privilege to Joaquim Alves de Souza for an apparatus of his invention for the manufacture of illuminating gas from turf.

—Their imperial majesties intend starting on the 26th instant on their excursion to Minas Geraes and to remain there until the end of April. They will be accompanied by the minister of marine.

—Viscondessa de Figueiredo, wife of the well known merchant and banker of this city, Visconde de Figueiredo, died at Petropolis on the 20th instant after a short illness.

—The new line of telegraph, which is to unite the capital with the province of Ceará, will be inaugurated on the 26th inst., at 10 a.m. in the presence of his majesty the Emperor.

—The president of the new city council is after the gas company about the registers. The minister of agriculture has been on the same trail for some time. Between the two the gas company will probably suffer from no lack of attention.

—By a despatch of the minister of agriculture, under date of the 18th inst., the inspector of public illumination has been instructed to inflict a fine of 1,000\$ on the contractor for the illumination of the suburbs for not having supplied the prescribed number of lamps in various streets of this city.

—The director general of the telegraphs having recommended to the government the system of transmitting the telegrams from the central station on the Campo Sant'Anna to the postoffice or exchange, and *vice-versa*, by means of pneumatic tubes, the minister of agriculture has authorized him to carry out this improvement.

—The minister of agriculture is said to be at work on regulations governing the reception of immigrants and their conveyance into the interior. All the details of their coming and going will be regulated to the finest point possible—and then if they don't come it will be no fault of the authorities.

—At last the reported resignation of the Barão do Lavradio, as president of the board of health, seems to be fully confirmed. Those who look upon the board of health as an active organization, and as an efficient agent in securing the city against any preventable cause of disease, will not regret the change.

—A case containing 1,132 daggers, neatly done up in sheaths representing fans, ornamented with silk tassels, recently imported from Europe, was seized as contraband in the customhouse a few days ago. The Brazilian law prohibits the importation of such goods and provides that if any are discovered they are to be seized and immediately destroyed or immolated.

—The total number of deaths in this city, according to the daily burial reports of the Misericórdia hospital authorities, during the eight days from the 13th to the 20th inst. inclusive, was 241. The number of deaths from yellow fever was 12, from other fevers 30 and from consumption 40. The deaths at the Jurujá hospital are not included in these figures.

—The number of immigrants arriving at this port during the month of December, including all third-class passengers, was 2,245, of which 25 received subsidies and 2,220 came voluntarily. By nationality there were 1,078 Portuguese, 852 Italian, 143 German, 106 Spanish, 24 French, and 42 of diverse nationalities. The departures during the month were 636.

—We understand that Mr. Morris N. Kohn, who holds a concession for a domestic telegraph service in this city, has attached a system of signals for the physician, police, and for giving an alarm of fire. The enterprise, says Mr. Kohn, is already organized, and the apparatus will soon be received for carrying it into execution.

—The *Gazeta de Notícias* is informed that there are at present about 1,500 slaves in the provinces of Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo, which have been brought from the northern provinces and are not yet sold. The new tax on the registry of these slaves will effectually prevent their sale, and they will probably be sent to Minas Geraes where the law has not yet gone into execution.

—We are indebted to the Department of State at Washington for a copy of the second installment of consular reports published under the new policy of procuring commercial information through the American consulates in various parts of the world. Many of these reports are extended studies on various industries and markets, and as such are of great interest to merchants and manufacturers.

—The Imperial Highnesses, Princess Isabel and Conde d'Eu, will return to Rio in May next.

—The presidency of the *Junta de Hygiene*, vacated by the resignation of baron de Lavradio, has been conferred on Dr. João Baptista dos Santos.

—The body of the policeman Fortunato, who was murdered a few days ago by the crew of a boat with stolen jerked beef, was washed ashore on the 21st instant. The murderers have not been captured.

—The steamship *City of Troy*, of the Roach line is expected to arrive in Rio de Janeiro on March first, and will sail for New York on March 8th instead of on March 5th as announced in another column.

—The export of cotton fabrics from Great Britain to Brazil during the eleven months ending November 30 last amounted to 217,075,300 yards, against 173,557,900 yards during the same period of 1879.

THE NEW YORK COFFEE FAILURES

The assignment of B. G. Arnold & Co. to Mr. J. Lawrence McKeever was filed yesterday, and the assignee took possession of the firm's books and effects. No official statement of the condition of the firm will be issued for some days yet, and the impression now prevails that the liabilities will not exceed \$1,000,000, and that the creditors will be paid in full or nearly so. The preferences are as follows:

Phelps, Stokes & Co.	\$ 53,357 71
Nevada Bank of S. Francisco	62,007 31
Blake Bros & Co., agents for the Neel-eland Indische Handelsbank	24,560 30
Kleinwort, Cohn & Co.	5,474 00
Brown Bros & Co.	16,615 60
Wright, Brown & Co.	8,874 00
Becher, McCalloch & Co.	37,244 02
Clerks and employees, whatever is due Sarah H. Peary	6,500 00

—The above are mostly advances on tea and coffee which are on way, or have arrived here, the bills of lading being given as security.

On the application of Messrs. Kidder, Peabody & Co., of Boston and New York, Boston agents of Baring Bros. & Co. of London, an injunction has been obtained restraining Bowie Dash & Co. and various warehousemen in this city from parting with any property or proceeds of property belonging to the estate of O. G. Kimball & Co., of Boston. These proceedings are for the purpose of securing the proper payment for about \$150,000 worth of coffee imported on the credits of Messrs. Kidder, Peabody & Co. and Messrs. Baring Bros. & Co., and to prevent the using of such proceeds toward liquidating the debts of the recent coffee syndicate, which was composed of B. G. Arnold & Co., Bowie Dash & Co., O. G. Kimball & Co. and associates.

The Nevada Bank of San Francisco has obtained an attachment for \$123,033 17 against Bowie Dash & Co. from Judge Donohoe of the Supreme Court. George L. Brander, the agent of the bank, in his affidavit, alleges that between September 2 and December 1 the firm received from or for account of the bank 7,800 bags of coffee valued at \$136,000, under a written agreement to hold the coffee in trust for the bank, and in case of a sale to pay the proceeds as soon as received to the agency of the bank; that the firm have sold the coffee and received for it partly cash and partly negotiable paper to the amount of \$123,033 17 over and above all payments made to the bank on account thereof; that the bank duly demanded from the firm the delivery of the remainder, but that the firm neglected and refused to pay it over, and that the negotiable paper was disposed of by the firm for its own uses.

Another attachment against the firm was granted by Judge Daniels Saturday in a suit against them by the Netherlands Trade Society to recover \$26,848 46 for coffee consigned to be sold on commission.—*N. Y. Journal of Commerce.*

The total debt of the United States on the 1st of January, less cash in the treasury, was \$1,899,181,735-99, which gives a decrease of \$5,699,430-76 for the month of December, and \$42,990,559-35 for the six months ending December 31.

JAVA trade just now is in anything but a satisfactory position, according to Drummer & Co.'s *Batavia Pices Current* of Nov. 5th, which reports the markets all in a state of stagnation, with prices "showing not the slightest improvement." Extraordinary mortality among the population of West Java, together with heavy losses caused by the cattle plague, are the principal causes of the depression. This year's crop of Government Java coffee will not reach over 651,930 pls. according to the latest returns; 539,304 pls. had been delivered at the stores in the interior and 449,120 pls. from this latter quantity sent down to shipping places on 30th September last.—*N. Y. Commercial Bulletin*, Dec. 20.

MONTHLY SUMMARY.

Meteorological observations taken at Itaip, in the city of S. Paulo, during the month of January, 1881, by the

Companhia Cantareira e Espectos.

Lat. 23° 28' S.
Long. 46° 40' 40" W. (Greenwich.)
Height of barometer: 2,393 ft. above sea-level.
Do of rain gauge: 2,378 ft. do do.
Mean pressure at 9 a.m. 27.626 inches at 9 p.m. 27.626 inches
Mean pressure corrected and reduced to 32° Fahr. at mean sea level at 9 a.m. 29.912 inches, at 9 p.m. 29.905 inches.
Mean temp. of air at 9 a.m. 71.2°; at 9 p.m. 68.7° Fahr.
Mean of max. temp. in shade, 81.9°; do min. in shade 61.1° F.
Mean temperature of Grass minimum therm. 68.6° Fahr.
Highest reading of max. of therm. in shade (31-8) 88.6°
Lowest reading of min. of therm. in shade (30-1) 50.1°
Lowest reading of Grass minimum therm. (30-1) 37.0° F.
Mean elastic force of vapor at 9 a.m. .637 in.; at 9 p.m. .653 in.
Total rainfall for the month, 11.41 inches.
Maximum fall of rain in one day (8th), 2.01 inches.
Rain fell on 18 days.
Thunder and lightning on the 2nd, 11th, 14th, 18th and 20th.
Thunder heard, but lightning not seen, on the 1st, 4th, 5th, 13th and 25th.
Lightning seen, but thunder not heard, on the 26th.
Fog on the mornings of 4 days.
Dew on the mornings of 7 and on the evenings of 8 days.
Rainbow was observed on the morning of the 6th.

SUMMARY FOR 1880.

Months.	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Mean Pressure		Mean of Air Temperature		Mean of Maximum of Temperature		Mean of Minimum of Temperature		Total Rain	
													a.m.	p.m.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Feet.	Inches.
Mean Pressure	27.714	27.708	27.708	27.708	27.708	27.708	27.708	27.708	27.708	27.708	27.708	27.708	27.714	27.708	27.708	27.708	27.708	27.708	27.708	27.708	27.708	27.708
Mean of Air Temperature	64.7	64.7	64.7	64.7	64.7	64.7	64.7	64.7	64.7	64.7	64.7	64.7	64.7	64.7	64.7	64.7	64.7	64.7	64.7	64.7	64.7	64.7
Mean of Maximum of Temperature	80.7	80.7	80.7	80.7	80.7	80.7	80.7	80.7	80.7	80.7	80.7	80.7	80.7	80.7	80.7	80.7	80.7	80.7	80.7	80.7	80.7	80.7
Mean of Minimum of Temperature	50.1	50.1	50.1	50.1	50.1	50.1	50.1	50.1	50.1	50.1	50.1	50.1	50.1	50.1	50.1	50.1	50.1	50.1	50.1	50.1	50.1	50.1
Total Rain	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41	11.41

HENRY R. JOYNER,
A.M.C.E., F.R.G.S. & F.A.S.
Engineer in chief.

February 23rd, 1888

EXCHANGE.

—An imperial decree of the 12th inst., authorizes the Banco Alliança, of Oporto, to transact business in Brazil, under certain stipulated conditions.

12	Six per cent apolices.....	1,038
	do (partible sale).....	1,037
	do.....	1,038
5	do.....	1,035
	do.....	1,035
1,400\$	do of small amount.....	1,030
10	National loan 1868.....	1,180
8	Cruz Urquiza.....	228
	Leopoldina R.R. debents.....	216
200	Banco do Brazil hypoth. notes (5%).....	905
30	do do do	90
73	Banco Predial hypoth. notes, without int.	735

MARKET REPORT.

Pl. de Mexico. *Botanica en card.* 1881.

Total... 34,550 bags.

17	do	"	<i>Euclid</i>	5,67
19	Hamburg, Gr str		<i>Paranangid</i>	8,83

Good second.....	3\$350 ... 3\$550
Ordinary second....	2\$900 ... 3\$150

50 " *Galileo* " Buenos Ayres
2,100 barrels per *Cuba* from Trieste

Baltimore	17 000—20 000
St. Louis	21 000—22 000

Channel f. o.—Br lg *Herbe*, 3,500 bags coffee, 55¢
do Nor schr *Nordstjernen*, 3,500, 55¢
do Nor bg *Cuba*, 4,100, 50¢
Elsinore f. o.—Sw bk *Felicia*, 2,100, £700

The receipts during the week averaged 3,058 bags per day and the daily average since 1st instant is 3,902 bags. Stock estimated at 78,000 bags.

Sugar.—Entries continue for the week ending 12th inst. 1905. The following are the quantities in kilo.

SHIPPING NEWS

SHIPPING NEWS

ARRIVALS OF FOREIGN VESSELS.

FEB. 21.
ROSAIRE—Br lug *Aurora*; 261 tons; Cereiger; 23 de hay
W. de Chapenauronge & Co.

DEPARTURES OF FOREIGN VESSELS.

DEPARTURES OF FOREIGN VESSELS

PERNAAMBUCO.—Nor bk Vega; 570 tons; Olsen; ballast.

FOREIGN SAILING VESSELS IN THE PORT
RIO DE JANEIRO, FEBRUARY 21, 1881.

FOREIGN SAILING VESSELS IN THE PORT OF
RIO DE JANEIRO, FEBRUARY 21, 1881.

	NAME	TONNAGE	RECEIVED	WHERE FROM	CONSIGNEE
	AMERICAN				
	bg Gannell	559	Jan 20	Baltimore.	Phippo Bros. & Co.
	bg A. R. Stuber	313	Jan 20	New York.	American acquisition
	bg A. R. Stuber	493	Feb. 1	New York.	To bro.
	bki Geo. P. Resbury	493	"	Edinboro.	Phippo Bros. & Co.
	bki Geo. L. Ingersoll	688	"	New York.	To bro.
	bg Anita Owen	489	"	New York.	A. Moss & Co.
	W. L. Plummer.	231	"	Schoon N.B.	To bro.
	bg Ossen	454	"	Rosario	W. Chapman & C.
	CANADIAN				
	bg B. British	382	Jan 20	Caniff.	To order.
	bg Heine	236	"	25 Gaspe.	Hime, Zenga & Sa
	bg Glenogary	236	"	60 Brunswick.	W. Guimarães & Co.
	bg Glenogary	236	"	6 New York.	To bro.
	bg Cyrol Manchi	386	"	9 Glasgow.	Watson Ritchie & K
	bki Hopfel	339	"	16 Liverpool.	J. I. Tenke
	bki Hopfel	339	"	16 Liverpool.	K. J. Goss
	bg Unily	178	"	12 Rosario.	W. Chapman & C.
	bki Dorothy	900	"	16 Liverpool.	To order.
	bg Dorothy	242	"	16 Liverpool.	Watson Ritchie & K
	bg Valero	410	"	18 Campana.	W. Chapman & C.
	bg Weaver	181	"	18 Ayres.	To order.
	bg Aurora	461	"	18 Rosario.	W. Chapman & C.
	DANISH				
	bg Confor	382	Feb. 9	Hamburg.	Brandes Kramer & C.
	bg Harvid	653	Feb. 13	Lisbon.	J. S. Zenna & W.
	GERMAN				
	bg Altonia	100	Dec. 10	Port Alegre	J. C. Ciga.
	bg Bolle	253	Feb. 16	Hamburg.	Brandes & Co.
	bg Georg Hertz	293	"	Rosario-Sa	W. Chapman & C.
	ITALIAN				
	bg Coscantine	370	Jan 20	Genua.	L. Zignago
	bg Amontio	138	Feb. 12	Hueburg.	Berla Contin & Co.
	bg Nordstegen	200	"	16 Trieste.	To order.
	bg Cuba	200	"	"	"
	bg Jorgen Baun	780	Feb. 20	Cardifi	Entered for supplies
	bg Felicia	389	"	13 Glasgow.	J. Fry & Co.
	SPANISH				
	bgn Eliza Subir.	264	Dec. 17	B. Ayres.	Azua Iro & Roch
	bgn Eliza Subir.	264	"	Mt Vent.	Souza Iro & Roch
	pok Alegancia	154	"	Mt vent.	Souza Iro & Roch
	bgk Antonio	133	"	Mt vent.	M. Frías & Son
	bgk Antonio	133	"	Mt vent.	M. Frías & Son
	bg Maria Rosa	218	"	13 Concordia	M. Frías & Son
	bg Esperanza	192	"	13 San Nicolas	M. Frías & Son
	bg Esperanza	192	"	13 San Nicolas	M. Frías & Son
	bg Oeata	374	"	18 Setto.	M. Frías & Son
	bg Trimiño	152	Feb. 10	Paysandey	M. Frías & Son
	bg Trimiño	152	"	16 Mont Vent.	M. Frías & Son
	bg Antonione	127	"	17 Mont Vent.	M. Zenha
	bg Tres Henana	190	"	16. Alfayta	Fiorini & Tavorani
	bg Nueva Guaya	716	Dec. 1	16 Salt Island	A. G. Santos.
	bgk Triumphador	470	"	16 Salt Island	A. G. Santos.
	bgk Triumphador	470	"	16 Porto Rico	Figueiredo & R
	bg Vasco da Gama	550	Jan 10	(Oporto).	Mendes d'Oliva
	bg N. Symphonia	392	"	16 Porto Rico	Mendes d'Oliva
	bgk Santa Lucia	392	"	20 Salt Island	M. Miranda Leoni
	bg José Estevezo	388	"	60 Mancio	M. d'Oliveira & C.
	bgk Americana	393	"	16 Porto Rico	M. Miranda Leoni
	bgk Americana	393	"	16 Porto Rico	Mendes d'Olivia
	bgk Ilano	238	"	16 Pernambuco	F. Peranodisco
	bg Margaria	143	"	16 Pernambuco	F. Peranodisco
	bg Margaria	143	"	16 Pernambuco	D. Pereira da Silva

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Capital subscribed..... " 900,000
Capital paid up..... " 450,000
Reserve fund..... " 150,000

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OF
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(LIMITED)

HEAD OFFICE IN LONDON

BRANCHES:
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Ditto, paid up..... " 900,000
Reserve fund..... " 150,000

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Rio de Janeiro.

Frank W. Jones, General Supt.
Rio de Janeiro.

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The company will furnish all the apparatus, build the lines and maintain them at its own expense. Subscribers will be charged a fixed rental for the use of the lines, depending upon the distance from the central stations. The general loss of charges will be approximately that ruling in New York and London, making due allowance for increased cost of construction and operation.

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Besides its general system, the company is prepared to erect, equip and maintain its own cost, subject to the payment of a fixed annual rental, *Private Lines* between any two edifices whose occupants may prefer to possess independent wires.

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RIO DE JANEIRO

89, RUA DA QUITANDA

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City of Rio de Janeiro	Capt. Lewis	May 29	June 5

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TABLE OF DEPARTURES,

1881

DATE	STEAMER	DESTINATION
Feb. 24	Elbe	Southampton and Antwerp for India, Malacca, Pernambuco, and Lisbon.
Mar. 6	Nera	Southampton and Havre for India, Pernambuco, St. Vincent and Lisbon.

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The weakness following long continued fever or any serious illness, is one of the most serious as well as distressing symptoms of convalescence.

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